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DE RUEHQQT #1106 1241659
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 041659Z MAY 06
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4228
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE 5588
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE 0558
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAY 9806
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE 3596
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE 1716
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE 0608
RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL IMMEDIATE 0385
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0072

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 001106

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/06/2014

TAGS: KUNR PHUM UNHRC PREL EC

SUBJECT: IRAN: GOE DISTRACTED BY ITS OWN HRC CANDIDACY

REF: STATE 66050

Classified By: PolOff Jarahn Hillsman, Reasons 1.4 (b&d)

¶1. (C) PolChief delivered RefTel points on May 3 to MFA U/S for Multilateral Affairs, Mauricio Montalvo, conveying U.S. and international concerns over Iran's bid for a seat on the Human Rights Council (HRC). Montalvo said no decision had been taken on the issue but said he did not believe that the GOE could ever be persuaded to vote for Iran. He noted that the GOE itself is a candidate for the HRC membership. Ten GRULAC states, including Venezuela and Cuba, are contending for 8 seats. Each needs a minimum of 96 votes to win. Montalvo expressed disappointment that the HRC selection process had fueled "vote swapping rather than a focus on human rights records." He said the GOE mission in New York was heavily engaged in HRC preparations, but ultimately instructions would come from Quito.

¶2. (C) Comment: Given GOE distraction attracting votes for its own candidacy, it is unlikely to campaign actively against others.

JEWELL